

Science for Sustainable Societies

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Scope of the Series

This series aims to provide timely coverage of results of research conducted in accordance with the principles of sustainability science to address impediments to achieving sustainable societies – that is, societies that are low carbon emitters, that live in harmony with nature, and that promote the recycling and re-use of natural resources. Books in the series also address innovative means of advancing sustainability science itself in the development of both research and education models.

The overall goal of the series is to contribute to the development of sustainability science and to its promotion at research institutions worldwide, with a view to furthering knowledge and overcoming the limitations of traditional discipline-based research to address complex problems that afflict humanity and now seem intractable.

Books published in this series will be solicited from scholars working across academic disciplines to address challenges to sustainable development in all areas of human endeavors.

This is an official book series of the Integrated Research System for Sustainability Science (IR3S) of the University of Tokyo.

More information about this series at <http://www.springer.com/series/11884>

Takashi Mino • Shogo Kudo
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Framing in Sustainability Science

Theoretical and Practical Approaches

 Springer Open

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Preface

Sustainability science emerged in the early 2000s as a new academic field to address sustainability issues through problem-driven and inter- and transdisciplinary approaches. The field sets its primary purposes in understanding the complex interactions between the ecological system and human society, in elucidating norms and values related to sustainability, and in proposing new technological or social approaches that move entire societies toward sustainability.

Framing is an essential process in sustainability science. This is because sustainability is fundamentally a normative concept: how people view the world influences what topics should be considered as problems and how such problems should be framed in the sustainability manifestation. Framing explains how people perceive and interpret particular topics or events based on the social norms, values, and assumptions that they apply in each situation. In reality, multiple framings by different groups of people always exist in a society because of the different understandings of reality; hence, diverse interpretations of situations always exist. Reflecting such multiplicity in people's framings, experts who can facilitate collaborations among different social actors to lead transformations towards sustainable society are needed.

Scholars in sustainability science also hold different understandings of reality and different framings for addressing sustainability issues. Furthermore, sustainability science stresses co-creation of knowledge and co-design of actions for sustainability between academic and various social actors; this implies a convergence of a greater degree of differences in framing. To perform inter- and transdisciplinary approaches effectively, acknowledging the presence of multiple framings and learning ways to create synergy among people who have different framings are necessary.

This book attempts to introduce both conceptual and practical framings applied in their respective fields by inviting authors from two graduate programs that are offering sustainability science degree courses, namely, Graduate Program in Sustainability Science-Global Leadership Initiative (GPSS-GLI) of The University of Tokyo and Lund University Centre for Sustainability Studies (LUCSUS) of Lund

University. By doing so, this book aims at providing an overall picture of diverse framings applied in sustainability research and education and giving theoretical as well as practical bases of framing in sustainability science to those who are motivated to guide our society to sustainability, thus becoming sustainability experts.

Kashiwa, Japan

Takashi Mino
Shogo Kudo

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